

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing in relation to the ideal characteristic curve of printing corresponds to a dependence of a modified dot gain on the area coverage.
3. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the maximum of the modified characteristic curve of printing in relation to the ideal characteristic curve of printing lies at an area coverage of between 50 % and 70 %.
4. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the maximum of the modified characteristic curve of printing in relation to the ideal characteristic curve of printing lies at approximately 60% area coverage.
5. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing, wherein characteristic data of an original are transformed into data required for printing, comprising the steps of:
  - defining a modified characteristic curve of printing which in relation to an ideal characteristic curve of printing has a maximum above an area coverage of 50%; and
  - transforming the original data into said data required for printing using the modified characteristic curve in order to control [[the]] dot gain in printing;
  - wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing in relation to the ideal characteristic curve of printing has a zero crossing at a finite area coverage.

6. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the zero crossing of the modified characteristic curve of printing at low area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 3 % and 30 % area coverage.
7. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the zero crossing of the modified characteristic curve of printing at low area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 5 % and 25 % area coverage.
8. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the zero crossing of the modified characteristic curve of printing at high area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 90% and 98% area coverage.
9. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the zero crossing of the modified characteristic curve of printing at high area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 95% and 98% area coverage.
10. (Previously presented) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the zero crossing of the modified characteristic curve of printing at low area coverage has a flatter slope than the zero crossing at high area coverage.
11. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the slope of the zero crossing at low area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 20° and 30°.
12. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the slope of the zero crossing at high area coverage lies in ~~[[the]]~~ a range of between 25° and 35°.

13. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the maximum of the modified characteristic curve of printing is determined by a correlation of ~~[[the]]~~ a theoretical area coverage and the dot gain.

14. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing is predefined by a mathematical function.

15. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing wherein characteristic data of an original are transformed into data required for printing, comprising the steps of:

defining a modified characteristic curve of printing which in relation to an ideal characteristic curve of printing has a maximum above an area coverage of 50%; and

transforming the original data into said data required for printing using the modified characteristic curve in order to control ~~[[the]]~~ dot gain in printing;

wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing is predefined by a mathematical function comprising several arcs of a circle.

16. (Original) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the predefined function comprises two arcs of a circle.

17. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 15, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a position of ~~[[the]]~~ a center point of ~~[[the]]~~ a further circle forming ~~[[an]]~~ one of the arcs of ~~[[a]]~~ the circle is adjustable.

18. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 15, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a radius of ~~[[the]]~~ a further circle forming ~~[[an]]~~ one of the arcs of ~~[[a]]~~ the circle is adjustable.

19. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing wherein characteristic data of an original are transformed into data required for printing, comprising the steps of:

defining a modified characteristic curve of printing which in relation to an ideal characteristic curve of printing has a maximum above an area coverage of 50%; and  
transforming the original data into said data required for printing using the modified characteristic curve in order to control [[the]] dot gain in printing;  
wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing is predefined by a mathematical function comprising one or several arcs of an ellipse, a parabola or a hyperbola.

20. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing has in relation to the ideal characteristic curve of printing a maximum percent dot gain of less than 30%.

21. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 20, wherein the maximum percent dot gain lies in [[the]] a range of between 5% and 30%.

22. (Original) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the maximum percent dot gain is approximately 10%.

23. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein a modified black color characteristic curve of printing is used for black.

24. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein a modified chromatic color tone characteristic curve of printing is used for the chromatic color tones.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the use of a printing ink with [[the]] a lowest density will result in a standard print density of at least approximately 1.6.

27. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein a CMYK set of process colors is used for printing.

28. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the use of a printing ink of ~~[[the]]~~ a color tone yellow (Y) will result in a standard print density of approximately 2.0.

29. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the use of a printing ink of ~~[[the]]~~ a color tone magenta (M) will result in a standard print density of approximately 2.4.

30. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the use of a printing ink of ~~[[the]]~~ a color tone cyan (C) will result in a standard print density of approximately 2.5.

31. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the use of a printing ink of ~~[[the]]~~ a color tone black (K) will result in a standard print density of approximately 3.0.

32. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing wherein characteristic data of an original are transformed into data required for printing, comprising the steps of:

defining a modified characteristic curve of printing which in relation to an ideal characteristic curve of printing has a maximum above an area coverage of 50%;

transforming the original data into said data required for printing using the modified characteristic curve in order to control ~~[[the]]~~ dot gain in printing; and

making a printing ink for said printing from a mixture of binder, colorant and printing additives,

wherein [[the]] a proportion of the colorant in said ink as a proportion of pigment is between 15% and 40%.

33. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the transformation from the original to printing data comprises a color space transformation from an RGB color space to a CMYK color space.

34. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the printing process is an offset printing process.

35. (Currently amended) Reproduction method for printing in accordance with ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the modified characteristic curve of printing is entered in a color management system.